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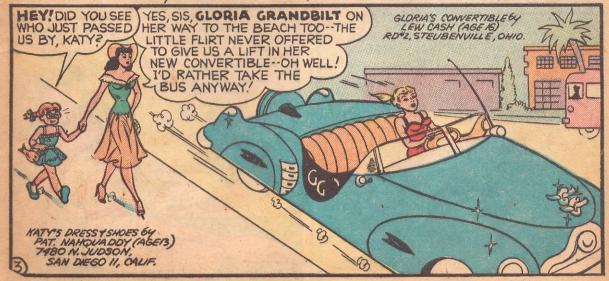


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Steve Cochran Spic-and-Span for New Role

For the first time in three years, Steve Cochran is playing a well-washed role. Actor has shaved off his beard, trimmed his mustache, and put on a clean shirt and shiny boots for his role of the dashing Captain Fontaine in "The Desert Song," Technicolor musical.

Steve's last half dozen films for the Warner studio have been in the soiled dungaree-and-T-shirt class, including "Top Secret," in which he doesn't shave until the last reel; "The Lion and the Horse," in which he continually wore blue denims; "The Tanks Are Coming," where he portrayed a battle-scar-red tanker, and "Tomorrow Is Another Day," in which he was an ex-convict on the run.

Lon Chaney Recreates Horror Down Under

Lon Chaney is now a stellar name on the vaudeville circuit since his recent five months' tour doing a dramatic sketch. Chaney has been contacted by Australian booking agents to do a repertoire of the many horror characters he has played in pictures. They assert they can keep him busy for three years.

Chaney, currently in "Springfield Rifle" starring Gary Cooper, says he doesn't want to be away from Hollywood that long. But he will accept a short engagement following completion of his role in the picture.

Fancy Puncher

Ex-welterweight champ Mushy Callahan, who trained him, claims that Gene Nelson is the fanciest bag puncher since lightweight champion Benny Leonard. Movie fans will get a chance to see whether Callahan is right when they view Nelson's dexterity during a gym number in Technicolor musical "She's Working Her Way Through College."

Police Chief Liu Draws "Sentence" In Wayne Starrer

Dan Liu, 44-year-old chief of Honolulu's world-famous police department, has been cast to play himself in "Big Jim McLain," which stars John Wayne and Nancy Olson.

Chief Liu is recognized as one of the world's outstanding police officers. He entered the Honolulu police department in 1932 as a foot patrolman. He was appointed police chief in July of 1948, after working

his way through every rank in the de-

Indicative of Chief Liu's standing in his profession is the fact that he has been invited to address each convention of the International Police Chief's Association since 1947. Next September he will speak on international police relations at the Association's convention in Los Angeles.

No Charley Chan character in any sense of the term except as a solver of baffling crimes, Chief Liu speaks perfect, unaccented English, wears conservative business clothes and might be taken for a mild-mannered business executive. However, under that mild exterior is one of the sharpest police brains in the world.

In "Big Jim McLain," Liu will play the key role of the Honolulu police officer who aids Wayne in carrying out a dangerous secret mission.

* * *

Scrappy Actor Runs Afoul Sassy Horse

Nick Dennis, who survived two fights with Marlon Brando in "A Streetcar Named Desire," as well as being hit on the head with a bottle in the same film, was injured by a horse in a scene for "The Iron Mistress," Alan Ladd-Virginia Mayo co-starrer.

Nick, who plays a jockey in the Technicolor picture, was preparing to mount the animal when it stepped on his right foot.

* * *

Problems Nixed By Movie Fans Says Film Star

People like love and laughter.

This is particularly true in troubled times like the present, when most of us have too many problems anyway, says Gloria Swanson. She firmly believes romance and comedy is what the majority of theatregoers seek.

Miss Swanson bases her contention on the opinion she sampled while touring the country last year. What she learned led her to accept the starring role in "3 for Bedroom C".

The forthcoming romantic comedy filmed in Natural Color embodies the factors people told her they wanted to see on the screen.

"In the thirty-three cities I visited," said Miss Swanson, "I made it a practice to ask everyone I could what they expected and wanted in the way of film entertainment.

"Those over 35 said they wanted romance and comedy. The youngsters asked for drama and romance, in that order. But they also said they liked to laugh. None of them, young or old, wanted to see problems on the screen. They had enough of them at home, they told me."

Hollywood Riffs Spook Wetbacks In Border Clash

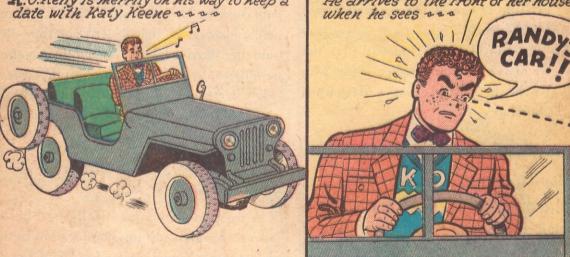
A troop of sixty armed Hollywood horsemen in Arabian costumes on location in the desert near Yuma, Ariz., for "The Desert Song," recently frightened a small band of Mexican wetbacks back across the border.

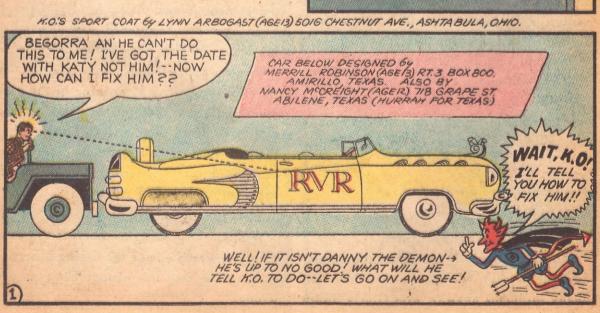
Director Bruce Humberstone reported that the film company was working in the sand dunes sixteen miles from Yuma and less than 500 yards from the Mexican border when the wetbacks suddenly stumbled upon the burnoosed actors, bearded and dirty and brandishing their Riff rifles.

They turned and fled back toward Mexico.

A Spanish-speaking member of the company overheard one of the fleeing Mexicans shout: "The map was wrong! The map was wrong!"











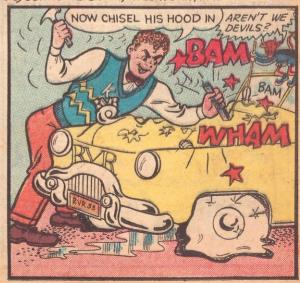
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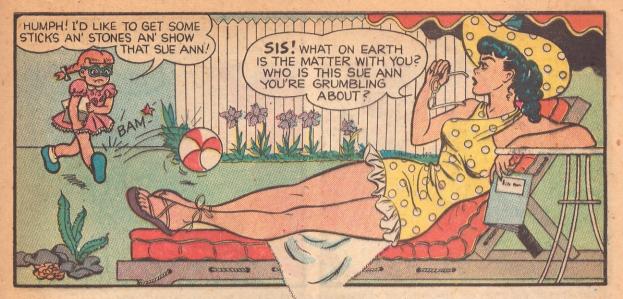




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